

# Psalms 37:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

## Analysis

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The contrast is stark: evildoers 'cut off' versus those waiting on the LORD 'inherit the earth.' Jesus quotes this verse in the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:5), applying inheritance to 'the meek.' The Hebrew 'karat' (cut off) was used for covenant breaking and capital punishment—total removal. Inheriting the earth/land echoes Abrahamic covenant promises, now universalized to include all who trust God. This inheritance isn't immediate but eschatological, requiring patient endurance while evildoers seem to possess the earth presently.

## Historical Context

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Land inheritance was Israel's covenant blessing. David extends this to cosmic scope—the righteous will ultimately possess not just Canaan but renewed creation, fulfilled in Revelation 21:1-4.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the promise of future inheritance sustain you through present disinheritance?
2. What does it mean to 'wait upon the LORD' rather than seize outcomes yourself?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	מִרְעִים	יִכָּרֵת וְ	וְקָוָה	יְהוָה	יְהוָה
H3588	<b>For evildoers</b>	<b>shall be cut off</b>	<b>but those that wait</b>	<b>upon the LORD</b>	H1992
	H7489	H3772	H6960	H3068	
	וְיִרְשׁוּ	אֶרֶץ:			
	<b>they shall inherit</b>	<b>the earth</b>			
	H3423	H776			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 60:21** (Parallel theme): Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

**Psalms 25:13** (Parallel theme): His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.

**Isaiah 57:13** (Parallel theme): When thou criest, let thy companies deliver thee; but the wind shall carry them all away; vanity shall take them: but he that putteth his trust in me shall possess the land, and shall inherit my holy mountain;

**Psalms 37:29** (Parallel theme): The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

**Psalms 55:23** (Parallel theme): But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee.

**Revelation 5:10** (Parallel theme): And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

**Proverbs 2:21** (Parallel theme): For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.

**Isaiah 58:14** (References Lord): Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

**Hebrews 11:16** (Parallel theme): But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

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